

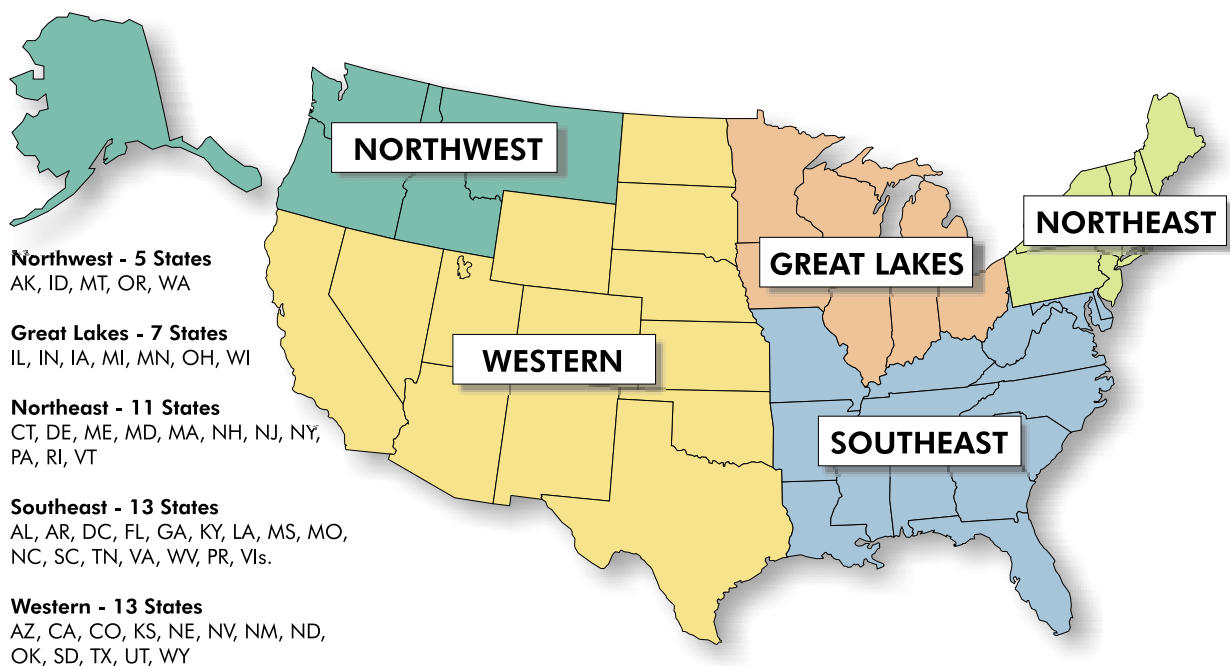
Mission

The Regional Biomass Energy Program will increase the production and use of biomass for energy by providing information, technical support and other assistance, and by mitigating barriers to commercialization of biomass-to-energy technologies.

The Regional Biomass Energy Program (RBEP) is a vital part of our Federal Government's search for diversified sources of energy and seeks to develop one of our country's most abundant and sustainable energy sources—biomass. Managed by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fuels Development, RBEP is working to increase the production and use of biomass energy resources by advancing and expanding the use of biomass feedstocks and technologies to convert biomass to energy. RBEP also promotes industrial competitiveness by identifying

market niches, disseminating information, and conducting demonstration projects that lead to new industries and jobs. Ongoing interactions and active partnerships between RBEP and its stakeholders have been, and will continue to be, essential for its success. RBEP's objectives are to:

- Improve the capabilities and effectiveness of State and local governments and industry in producing and using bioenergy.
- Support resource availability and planning efforts.



- Encourage economic development by investing in bioenergy technology.
- Accelerate market acceptance of bioenergy technologies by reducing or eliminating market barriers and understanding economic and environmental costs and risks.

RBEP carries out activities related to technology transfer, industry support, and matching local resources to biomass conversion technologies. Its major focus is to transfer current, reliable information to potential biomass users. It emphasizes technologies best suited to near-term use and provides economic and technical information. Examples of recent efforts in the five regional offices include the following:

The Pacific Northwest and Alaska

Regional Bioenergy Program coordinates the DOE Green Parks Initiative for the RBEPs, promoting the use of ethanol and biodiesel within National parks. It conducts workshops with the national Park Service staff to identify and resolve transportation issues, and works with the surrounding communities to increase the use of biofuels in transportation corridors that lead to National Parks. For more information, contact Jeff James, Pacific Northwest and Alaska Regional Bioenergy Program Manager, at 206-553-2079; e-mail: jeffrey.james@hq.doe.gov

The Western Regional Biomass Energy

Program has numerous projects under way that seek to use forestry wastes, municipal solid wastes, soybeans and other oil-based feedstocks, and rice straw to produce biofuels. For more information contact Jeff Graef, Western Regional Biomass Energy Program administrator, at 402-471-3218; e-mail: jgraef@mail.state.ne.us; or visit the WRBEP web-site at www.westbioenergy.org.

The Great Lakes Regional Biomass

Energy Program supports a variety of projects with universities and the public and private sectors to increase the use and production of

ethanol in the region. Some of these projects include production of ethanol from beet pulp and forestry waste, testing of oxygenated diesel fuel in transit fleets and agricultural equipment, and support for the Ethanol Vehicle Challenge. For more information contact Fred Kuzel, Great Lakes Regional Biomass Energy Program manager, at 312-407-0177; e-mail: fkuzel@cedar.cic.net; or visit the GLRBEP web-site at www.cglg.org.

The Northeast Regional Biomass

Program has proposed a project to promote public support for new biomass-to-ethanol technology, promote ethanol's current and projected contribution to fuel supplies, the need for state-supported credit assurance, and the external economic and environmental benefits that would arise from such investments. For more information contact Richard Handley, Northeast Regional Biomass program manager, at 202-624-8454; e-mail: nrbp@sso.org; or visit the NRBEP web-site: www.nrbp.org.

The Southeast Regional Biomass Energy

Program is serving as national coordinator for a multiyear workshop program that involves all five regions. The state-level workshops will include presentations about biofuels used as octane enhancers or in blends, flexible fuel vehicles, the economic and environmental benefits of biofuels, and production of ethanol, especially focusing on ethanol from cellulosic resources. For more information, contact Phil Badger, Southeast Regional Biomass Energy Program technical manager, at 256-740-5634, e-mail: pbadger@bioenergyupdate.com

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